



Public Health, Safety Net and Special Populations Workgroup

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IDEHA MISSION

- To improve the health of Marylanders by reducing the transmission of infectious diseases, helping impacted persons live longer, healthier lives, and protecting individuals and communities from environmental health hazards
- We work in partnership with local health departments, providers, community based organizations, and public and private sector agencies to provide public health leadership in the prevention, control, monitoring, and treatment of infectious diseases and environmental health hazards.



Ten Great Public Health Achievements United States 1900-1999

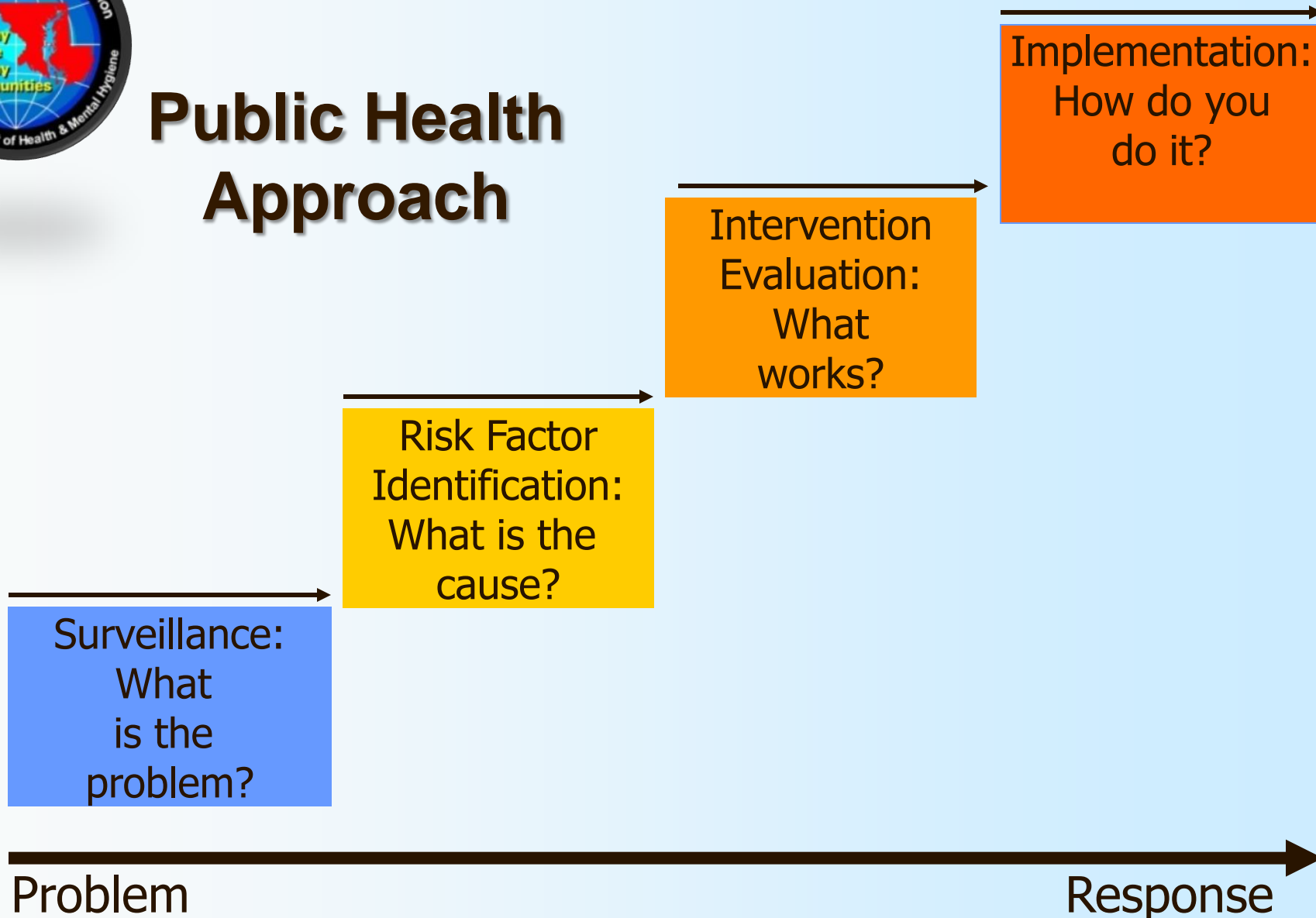
- ❖ Healthier mothers and babies
- ❖ Increased Vaccination
- ❖ Motor-vehicle safety
- ❖ Family planning
- ❖ Safer and healthier foods
- ❖ Fluoridation of drinking water
- ❖ Recognition of tobacco use as a health hazard
- ❖ Safer workplaces
- ❖ Control of infectious diseases
- ❖ Decline in coronary heart disease and stroke death



Source: MMWR April 02, 1999 / 48(12);241-243



Public Health Approach





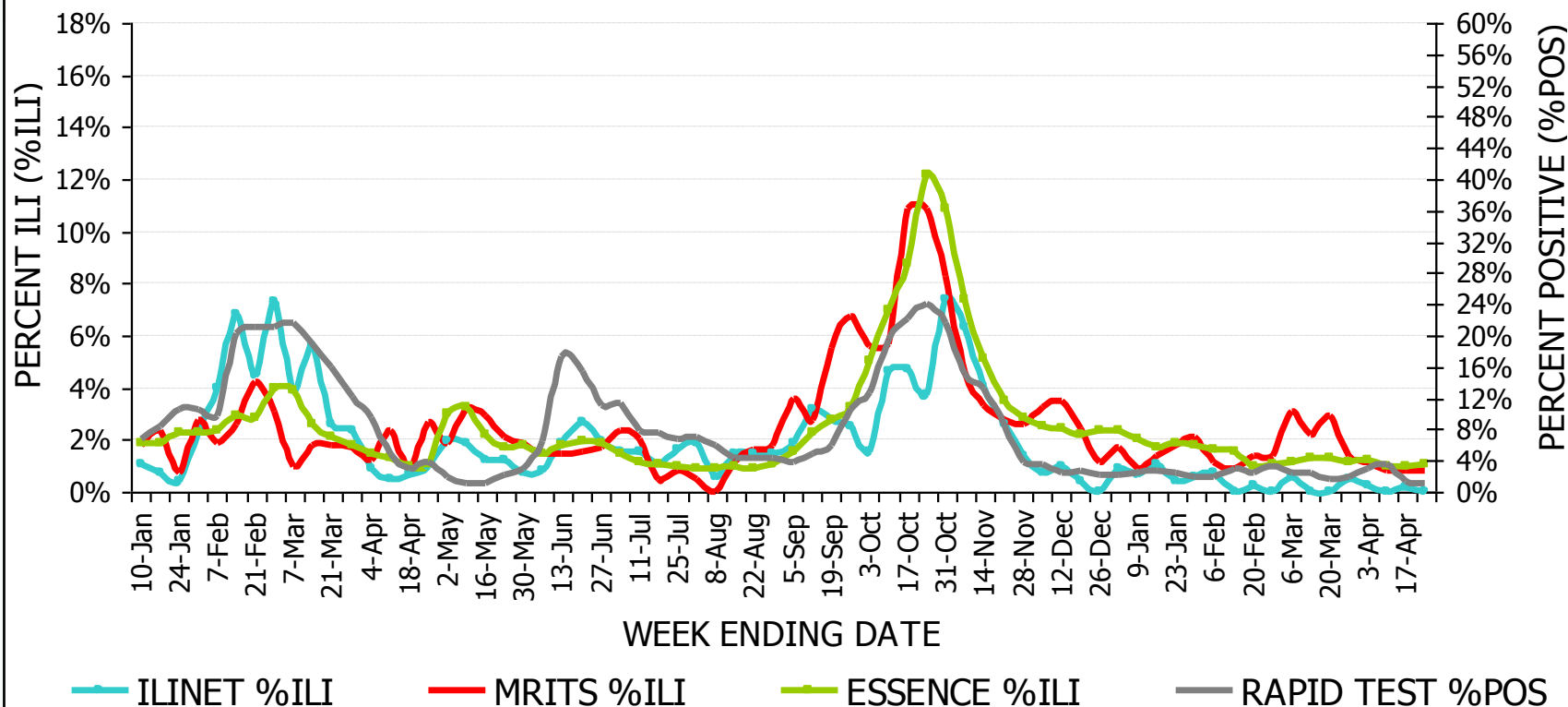
Control of Infectious Disease: The Role of Public Health Surveillance

- Measure and describe epidemics and outbreaks
- Coordinate outbreak investigations (250 – 400 per year)
- Provide consultation on ID issues to LHDs, providers, other groups (schools, workplaces), and the public
- Develop ID-related plans and guidelines
- Develop fact sheets and other public educational materials



Control of Infectious Diseases: Surveillance and Outbreak Response

Influenza Surveillance, Maryland, 2009-2010





Control of Infectious Disease: Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI)

- HAIs are a major problem in the US (and worldwide)
 - Estimated 1.7 million infections and 99,000 associated deaths each year
 - the overall annual direct medical costs of HAI to U.S. hospitals ranges from \$28.4 to \$33.8 billion
 - Increasingly, infections are multidrug-resistant
 - Increasing recognition that HAIs are preventable
- Not just a problem of acute care hospitals
 - Outpatient ambulatory surgical centers
 - Outpatient dialysis centers
 - Long-term care facilities
 - Even non-healthcare settings (i.e., community-associated)!
- Prevention requires Public Health coordination of multi-system responses



DHMH Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Surveillance and Prevention Efforts

- Multidrug Resistant Organism Prevention Collaborative
- Multi-drug-resistant Acinetobacter prevalence survey (ELC)
- Invasive MRSA Infections Project (EIP)
- Community acquired C. difficile (“C Diff”) infection surveillance (EIP)
- Outpatient dialysis blood stream infection surveillance project (EIP)
- HAI and Antibiotic Use prevalence survey (EIP)
- Long term care infection prevention training (IDEOR)
- Mandatory Reporting of Vancomycin Resistant Staph Aureus (VRSA)
 - and Vanco Intermediate S aureus (VISA) (IDEOR)



MDRO Prevention Collaborative and Acinetobacter Prevalence Survey

- Multidrug resistant Acinetobacter (gram negative bacteria) is an increasing concern in healthcare
- MDRO Prevention Collaborative established 2010
 - Public health, academic and community partners
- Survey of 40/52 MD acute hospitals and LTCHF housing mechanically ventilated patients in July, 2010
- High rates of resistant Acinetobacter infection found in both acute hospitals and long term care patients
- Prevention work has begun: developing communication, best prevention practices, inter-facility transfer alert system for infected patients



Control of Infectious Diseases: Zoonotic





Public Health Investigation of a Rabid Calf at an Educational Farm, Prince George's County, MD, 2010

Total Rabies Exposure Risk Assessments and PEP Referrals	Number Assessed for PEP	Number Referred for PEP (%)
Farm and veterinary personnel	22	17 (77%)
School visits	107	29 (27%)
Student environmental group	35	4 (11%)
Other parties	10	9 (90%)
TOTAL	174	59 (34%)



Increasing Vaccination: The Role of Public Health

- Promotes vaccinations
 - Public education, programs, and materials
 - Provider education, programs, and materials
- At least 80 percent of two-year olds (the CDC national goal for states) will have up-to-date immunizations each year.
- Manages Vaccines for Children (VFC) program
- Conducts surveillance and case investigations for vaccine-preventable diseases



Safer and Healthier Foods: The Role of Public Health

- Conduct inspections of ~800 Maryland Food Processing Plants to ensure that foods are wholesome, free of adulterants, and properly packaged and labeled
- Responsible for the safety of food processed, prepared, stored, and distributed in Maryland
- Variable size & product types
 - Canning, seafood, snack foods, bottled water, soft drinks, soy products, bakery products, candy, spices, sauces, cider



Safer and Healthier Foods: The Role of Public Health

- The milk control program has the sole responsibility to assure that all milk and milk products and frozen desserts are produced, transported, processed, and distributed in compliance with all State and Federal laws and regulations both intrastate and interstate.





Safer and Healthier Foods: The Role of Public Health

- Plan reviews
 - New food establishments, remodeling, new equipment, substantial process/menu change
- Inspections and enforcement
- Develop and present training programs to LHDs
- Write regulations, policies, and guidelines for Statewide programs
- Standardization of LHDs



Summary

- During and after health care reform, Public Health will maintain core functions of:
 - Assessment
 - Policy Development
 - Assurance

In order to ensure the safety and health of our state's population.



Maryland Infectious Disease and Environmental Health Administration

<http://eh.dhmh.md.gov/ideah>